

Atty Docket No. 071949-5604
Patent

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of all claims in the application is indicated in the following claim listing:

1-31 Cancelled

32. (Previously presented) A method of identifying an increased risk of subclinical atherosclerosis in a human subject, comprising:

performing an assay that detects monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 in a blood sample from said subject to provide a monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 assay result; and

correlating the monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 assay result to the risk of the presence or absence of subclinical atherosclerosis in the subject.

33. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein the assay step comprises determining the concentration of monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 in said sample, and the correlating step comprises comparing said concentration to a threshold concentration, wherein a concentration of monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 less than said threshold concentration is indicative of a first risk of subclinical atherosclerosis and a concentration of monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 greater than said threshold concentration is indicative of a second risk of subclinical atherosclerosis.

34. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said correlating step further comprises determining the presence or amount of one or more risk factors selected from the group consisting of the sex, age, a diagnosis of diabetes, a diagnosis of hypertension, past tobacco use, a cholesterol concentration, and a family history of atherosclerosis, for said subject, wherein the presence or absence of one or more of said risk factors and the monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 assay result are correlated to the risk of the presence or absence of subclinical atherosclerosis in the subject.

Atty Docket No. 071949-5604
Patent

35. (Original) A method according to claim 33, wherein said threshold concentration provides an odds ratio of about 1.3 or greater or about 0.77 or less.

36. (Original) A method according to claim 33, wherein said threshold concentration is selected to provide an odds ratio of about 2 or greater or about 0.5 or less.

37-39 Cancelled

40. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 32, further comprising performing an assay that detects one or more other subject-derived markers in said sample to provide one or more additional assay results, and said correlating step comprises correlating the monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 assay result and said one or more additional assay results to the risk of the presence or absence of subclinical atherosclerosis in the subject.

41. (Original) A method according to claim 40, wherein said one or more other subject-derived markers are independently selected from the group consisting of specific markers of myocardial injury, specific markers of neural tissue injury, markers related to blood pressure regulation, markers related to coagulation and hemostasis, markers related to inflammation, and markers related to apoptosis.

42. Cancelled

43. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein the blood sample is processed to provide serum or plasma prior to performing said assay that detects monocyte chemoattractant protein-1.

44. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein the assay is an immunoassay method.